

Conference Engrossed

State of Arizona
Senate
Forty-fifth Legislature
First Regular Session
2001

CHAPTER 323

SENATE BILL 1516

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 15-1251 AND 41-1279.08, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; REPEALING SECTION 41-3004.18, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO FAMILY PROGRAMS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 15-1251, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 15-1251. State block grant for early childhood education;
5 evaluation

6 A. The state block grant for early childhood education program is
7 established in the state board of education. The purpose of the program is
8 to promote improved pupil achievement by providing flexible supplemental
9 funding for early childhood programs, including preschool programs for
10 economically disadvantaged children, and programs that serve all public
11 school pupils statewide who are in kindergarten programs and grades one, two
12 and three.

13 B. Funding for the program for each fiscal year shall be allocated
14 based on the number of pupils in kindergarten programs and grades one, two
15 and three in each charter school or school district who were eligible for
16 free lunches during the prior fiscal year under the national school lunch and
17 child nutrition acts (42 United States Code sections 1751 through 1785). Any
18 charter school or school district that did not determine for the prior fiscal
19 year if its pupils in kindergarten programs and grades one, two and three
20 were eligible for free lunches under the national school lunch and child
21 nutrition acts shall receive funding for the program in the current fiscal
22 year based on the number of its pupils in kindergarten programs and grades
23 one, two and three who would have been eligible for free lunches in the prior
24 fiscal year according to the statewide kindergarten programs and grades one,
25 two and three eligibility average for all school districts and charter
26 schools collectively for the prior fiscal year. Notwithstanding this
27 section, a school district or charter school with an average daily membership
28 of more than six hundred pupils in kindergarten programs and grades one, two
29 and three in the prior fiscal year shall have participated in the national
30 school lunch and child nutrition acts free lunches program in the prior
31 fiscal year to be eligible for program funding in the current fiscal year.

32 C. A school district or charter school that devotes part or all of its
33 program funding to preschool programs shall comply with all of the following
34 requirements:

35 1. Restrict the preschool program only to preschool children eligible
36 for free or reduced price lunches under the national school lunch and child
37 nutrition acts.

38 2. Allow participating pupils to receive preschool services only from
39 a public, federally funded or private child care provider, each of which
40 shall be licensed by the department of health services and each of which,
41 beginning in fiscal year 1999-2000, also shall be accredited by a state board
42 of education approved organization that provides accreditation for preschool
43 programs.

44 3. Provide all federally funded or private child care providers
45 located within the school district or within ten miles of the charter school

1 with information necessary for them to participate in the program, including
2 names and addresses of children selected for participation and of their
3 parents or guardians.

4 4. Provide all parents or guardians of children selected for the
5 program with a list of licensed federally funded or private child care
6 providers located within the school district or within ten miles of the
7 charter school and explain to parents or guardians that they may choose to
8 have their child receive services under the program from any provider on the
9 list if that provider agrees to participate.

10 5. Allow at least fifty per cent of pupils selected for the program
11 to receive preschool services from a federally funded or private child care
12 provider of their parent's or guardian's own choosing.

13 6. Allow any eligible child care provider located within the school
14 district or within ten miles of the charter school to participate in the
15 program if it is willing to provide services at a unit cost similar to that
16 paid to other providers in the area under the program.

17 7. Limit the use of contracts with federally funded and private child
18 care providers to financial agreements pertaining to numbers of children to
19 be served, hours of service to be provided per child, payment rates and other
20 financial aspects of the program.

21 8. Limit to five per cent the amount of block grant monies that may
22 be used locally for program administration.

23 9. Pay participating federally funded and private child care providers
24 in a timely manner.

25 D. The ~~auditor general~~ LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL shall conduct a
26 programmatic evaluation of the state block grant for early childhood
27 education program every three years. FOR THIS EVALUATION, THE STAFF OF
28 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHALL DEVELOP OUTCOME MEASURES TO INDICATE THE
29 EFFECTIVENESS OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM. THE DEPARTMENT OF
30 EDUCATION SHALL ASSIST THE STAFF OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN COLLECTING ANY
31 INFORMATION NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE EVALUATION.

32 Sec. 2. Section 41-1279.08, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
33 read:

34 41-1279.08. Auditor general; evaluations; healthy families;
35 family literacy; health start

36 A. The auditor general shall conduct an ~~annual~~ programmatic evaluation
37 EVALUATIONS of the healthy families program, and the family literacy program
38 AND THE HEALTH START PROGRAM. The auditor general shall provide ~~annual~~
39 programmatic evaluations to the president of the senate, the speaker of the
40 house of representatives and the governor on or before December 31, 2002 AND
41 ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31 OF EACH FIFTH YEAR AFTER THAT DATE.

42 B. The ~~annual~~ programmatic evaluations shall examine:

43 1. The effectiveness of the programs in meeting program goals. ,

44 2. The organizational structure and efficiency of the programs. ,

45 3. The level and scope of services included within the programs. ,

1 4. The type and level of criteria used to establish eligibility within
2 the programs. and

3 5. The number and demographic characteristics of the persons who
4 receive services by the programs.

5 C. The annual programmatic evaluations shall include:

6 1. Information on the number and characteristics of the program
7 participants.

8 2. Information on contractors and program service providers.

9 3. Information on program revenues and expenditures.

10 4. Information on the number and characteristics of enrollment and
11 disenrollment and information from participants on the reasons for each.

12 5. Information on the average cost for each participant in the
13 programs.

14 6. Information concerning progress of program participants in
15 achieving goals and objectives.

16 7. Information on any long-term savings associated with program
17 services.

18 8. Recommendations regarding program administration.

19 9. Recommendations regarding informational materials distributed
20 through the programs.

21 D. In addition to other program evaluation requirements in this
22 section, the auditor general shall also evaluate:

23 1. The healthy families program to measure the effect of the program
24 on encouraging parental responsibility in various areas, including
25 employment, self-sufficiency and child safety. The audit shall also document
26 the income level and family size of those receiving program services.

27 ~~E. 2. In addition to other program evaluation requirements in this~~
28 ~~section, the auditor general shall evaluate~~ The family literacy program to
29 determine which program models are most effective in meeting program goals.

30 ~~F. E.~~ In preparing the annual programmatic evaluations, the auditor
31 general shall not rely solely on information concerning program
32 participants and program performance prepared by contractors, but shall
33 independently develop information for the annual programmatic evaluations.

34 ~~G. F.~~ Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the auditor general
35 has access to all relevant information and records held by the department of
36 health services and the department of economic security in order to conduct
37 the evaluations required by this section. The auditor general shall keep
38 this information confidential.

39 Sec. 3. Repeal

40 Section 41-3004.18, Arizona Revised Statutes, is repealed.

~~APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR MAY 4, 2001.~~

~~FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE MAY 4, 2001.~~

15 Nays, 6 Not Voting

Norman L. Tjorne
Chief Clerk of the House

6 Nays, 1 Not Voting

Chairman Billings

Secretary of the Senate

Secretary to the Governor

Governor of Arizona

Secretary of State

S.B. 1516

HOUSE FINAL PASSAGE
as per Joint Conference

Passed the House _____, 20____,

by the following vote: _____ Ayes,

_____ Nays, _____ Not Voting

Speaker of the House

Chief Clerk of the House

SENATE FINAL PASSAGE
as per Joint Conference

Passed the Senate May 1, 2001,

by the following vote: 29 Ayes,

0 Nays, 1 Not Voting

Randall Smith
President of the Senate

Chambers Billington
Secretary of the Senate

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR

This Bill was received by the Governor

this 1 day of May, 2001,

at 2:00 o'clock P M.

Brenda Ramirez
Secretary to the Governor

Approved this 4th day of

May, 2001,

at 10:45 o'clock A M.

Janet Lee Gull
Governor of Arizona

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

This Bill was received by the Secretary of State

this 4 day of May, 2001,

at 4:34 o'clock P M.

S.B. 1516

Secretary of State